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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APR 20 2001  
O I P E  
C I A S  
P A T E N T & T R A D E M A R K O F F I C E

Applicant: John R. Doner

Serial No.: 09/751,362

Filed: December 28, 2000

For: A Yard Performance Model Based  
on Task Flow Modeling

: Art Unit: 2123

: Examiner:

RECEIVED

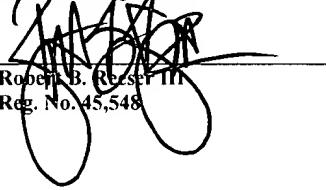
APR 25 2001

Technology Center 2100

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United  
States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on  
April 20, 2001.

Robert B. Reeser III  
Reg. No. 45,548



**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Please enter the following amendment prior to publication and examination of this  
application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the paragraph on page 6 starting at line 8, ending at line 21, and beginning  
with the words, "Each of valves 84," and substitute therefor the following paragraph.

Each of valves 84, 88, 92, 96, 100, 104 and 108 denote a task flow modulation associated  
with a modulating agent. Inbound flow valve 84 is effectively opened for inflow by the T-Plan,  
and surge yard reservoir 60 must be prepared to accept the increase in level. Surge-to-receiving  
flow valve 88 is modulated by the need to move railcars from surge yard reservoir 60, and the